

end of September. We have a lot of very serious work to do of interest to the Nation's Capital, to the people in America, including the Interior appropriations bill, the Labor-HHS appropriations bill, as well as the ISTEA bill. But there is time to look at these matters. I am sure they will be considered appropriately as we move into the fall.

Mr. KERRY. Will the majority leader yield further?

Mr. LOTT. I yield for a further question.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I thank the leader for that answer. I understand where he is heading with respect to that.

If I could ask further, I had wanted at this time, Mr. President, to be able to introduce a bill. I don't know what the intentions of the leader are regarding time to be able to proceed and do that.

Mr. LOTT. We have some unanimous-consent requests and then Senator DOMENICI has an issue, but there will be time for brief remarks.

Mr. THURMOND addressed the Chair.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I yield to the Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I just want to commend Senator LOTT, the majority leader, for the outstanding leadership he is providing here in the Senate. Many things here have been accomplished. I don't recall, in the 43 years I have been here, fine leadership shown that has gotten so much done in such a short time. I am proud of you. And I want to commend Senator DASCHLE for his fine cooperation and leadership, too.

Mr. LOTT. Thank you very much.

Further, I want to say that we are going to have a period for morning business.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, would it be appropriate at this time to ask if I could proceed after the Senator from New Mexico?

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I see a number of Senators that wish to speak. I believe Senator DOMENICI has something he needs to do, and I have a couple unanimous consents, and then the Senator may speak. Within a very few minutes, he can get recognized.

Mr. SARBANES. If the Senator will yield, Mr. President.

Mr. LOTT. I yield to the Senator from Maryland.

Mr. SARBANES. First of all, I join with my colleagues who have commended the majority leader for the very efficient way in which the Senate has conducted itself over the past month. We have, obviously, processed a great deal of business.

I just want to say that I was very heartened to hear the majority leader state that it was his intention to address this Executive Calendar before we go out, I gather, with the anticipation of clearing, if not all of it, most of it, as I understand it.

I want to underscore how important that is. If we do it now, these people

can move into their positions and be functioning within the week. If we don't do it now, then it obviously has to carry over into September, and you are talking about losing 5, 6, 7 weeks before we get people on the job.

I just want to thank the majority leader for his indication that he is going to address that issue before we depart.

Mr. LOTT. Maybe before we go out tonight.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, if the leader will yield further. As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I commend the distinguished majority leader, the Democratic leader, and the chairman and ranking member of that committee for pushing us this far on the appropriations. It is highly commendable.

I join my friend from Maryland in saying there are many of these nominations on the calendar that need to be cleared as soon as possible—especially the judges that are there. We have new vacancies in our courts. Again, once a person has been confirmed, it still takes weeks before they get out of whatever life they are in—private practice, or whatever—to get out of that and get set up and get their law clerks hired, and on and on, and with all that it means with their families and lives and all. So if some can be cleared now, we know it will be 5 weeks sooner.

Mr. BIDEN. Will the majority leader yield?

Mr. LOTT. I yield to the Senator from Delaware.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. Leader, on the matter of the legislation we just passed, I want to make one comment. It is obvious that the Senator from New Mexico is recognized as an effective chairman. It is obvious that the Senator from New York [Mr. MOYNIHAN] is viewed as articulate and as one of the brightest people here. It is obvious that everybody knows how effective the ranking member of the Budget Committee is.

I want to make a personal comment that I never thought I would make, or need to make. I think the single-most underestimated person in this body is one of the single-most effective people, and that is my senior colleague, BILL ROTH. He has a style that is so low-key and so quiet that I don't think he gets the credit he deserves. I just want to remind everybody, notwithstanding the fact that everyone sees and hears more about the able leaders I mentioned, this deal would not have been done without BILL ROTH. BILL ROTH. People in my State love him, but they don't even realize that.

I just want everybody to be reminded that this quiet guy from Delaware, who has a very different political view on a lot of things than I do, is one of the single-most effective people we have. On last year's welfare reform bill, and every major thing we have done in the past 18 months, he has been at the helm, or has played a major part.

I want to personally recognize the contribution he makes and state for

the record, I think he gets—not intentionally; I think unintentionally—less credit than anybody in this place, and I think he plays the most significant role in all of what we are rightfully celebrating here, which is the passage of the tax bill and the reforms that have taken place in welfare, et cetera. So I want the RECORD to reflect that the man from Delaware, my senior colleague, deserves a heck of a lot of credit.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank the Senator from Delaware for making that comment. That is the kind of recognition that we should give more of around here, especially between colleagues of opposite parties.

Let me assure you that, without Senator ROTH, the IRA provision and many other provisions in this bill would not be there. He was dogged and determined and did a great job. I thank the Senator for what he said and the recognition he gave.

PROVIDING FOR THE CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE TWO HOUSES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution 136, the adjournment resolution, which was received from the House.

I further ask consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 136) was agreed to, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 136

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring). That, in consonance with section 132(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946, when the House adjourns on the legislative day of Friday, August 1, 1997 or Saturday, August 2, 1997, pursuant to a motion made by the Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until noon on Wednesday, September 3, 1997, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the Senate recesses or adjourns at the close of business on Thursday, July 31, 1997, Friday, August 1, 1997, or Saturday, August 2, 1997, pursuant to a motion made by the Majority Leader or his designee in accordance with this concurrent resolution, it stand recessed or adjourned until noon on Tuesday, September 2, 1997, or until such time on that day as may be specified by the Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until noon on the second day after Members are notified to reassemble pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and Senate, respectively, to reassemble whenever, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.